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September 23rd, 1919

Mr. Grant,
Colonisation Department,
Parliament Buildings,
Toronto.

Dear Mr. Grant:

I am sending you a short article, which I am sure, however, will be too long for insertion as it stands in your book. You will probably be able to make extracts from it which will give you the necessary material. You will see that I have emphasised the work of the University in the war, the development that has been made through these recent munificent gifts, and the establishment of the Department of Social Service.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

Since the last issue of this book the war has suddenly fallen upon us, its terrible exactions have been met and faced and our cause has been triumphantly vindicated. It affected the University profoundly. The call of duty stirred the souls of our generous youth to their depths, and at once the class rooms began to empty. Some faculties soon lost nearly all their available men; the teaching staff was quickly reduced in numbers; buildings were placed at the disposal of the authorities for all kinds of war work; the grounds were worn bare with drilling and in the later years of the war in the University the headquarters of the Royal Air Force were established; in our laboratories all the tetanus anti-toxin used in the Canadian Army was manufactured, and one of the finest hospitals (No.4 Canadian General) in the Canadian forces was equipped by the University and manned by our medical staff and did distinguished service in Salonika and in England. Altogether more than 6000 graduates and undergraduates of the University (of whom some 120 were on the teaching staff) enlisted, and of these over 600 have fallen. No where were the issues involved in the war more earbestly set forth than in the University, nor more clearly grasped; nowhere was there a nobler response made. Those five years have been the greatest in the history of the University, abiding heroic traditions have been created; the quality of the character of the students and staff were severely tested, and our education has been proved to be such as to produce fine citizens.

Now that the war is over education will receive a marked impetus. During the next few years the University will be thronged with young men and women. Even during the academic session 1918-19 after the armistice the numbers began to increase rapidly , special arrangements being made for the instruction of the returning soldiers. In all there were 3300 students in attendance as compared with about 4400 in the year before the war. All signs indicate that very shortly there will be a larger attendance than ever before, and the University will probably continue to be the largest English-speaking university in the British Empire.

Two great benefactions have been made in the last few years for the development of medicine. The first

is the gift of the Connaught Laboratories and farm of 58 acres by Colonel A. E. Gooderham for the manufacture of sera, anti-toxins and vaccines for tetanus, meningitis, rabies, small-pox and other diseases and for the investigation of preventive medicine. By reason of the University supplying these remedies at the lowest possible cost, the Government of Ontario has been able to distribute them free throughout the Province thereby conferring an inestimable boon upon the people. The second gift is that of $500,000 made by Sir John and Lady Eaton for the development of the department of medicine. By means of this magnificent donation the faculty of medicine will be given a pre-eminent position on this continent.

Another unique benefaction is the gift of the Hart House by the Massey Estate. This beautiful structure has been erected to house all the social and athletic activities of the men students and will become a centre for their education in social intercourse, debate and varying physical and intellectual exercise. It is to be hoped that before long some far-seeing benefactor will make possible similar opportunities for the women of the University.

Within the last few years a new department of Social Service has been established for the purpose of training workers in the manifold duties that have recently been demanding attention in the community. The establishment of this department has at once proved that it has met the need as the attendance has for the last two years averaged over 200 each year.

The University is a great training-ground for democracy. Men and women come to it from every grade of society, from every section of the province and from beyond its borders. The fees are low and education is placed as far as possible within the reach of all; so here are to be found those who have the aptitude and desire to excel in things of the mind and spirit, in pure and applied science, the humanities, and the professions. Here are trained those who should prove citizens of high character and many of them trustworthy leaders of the people.